SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 6, 2013 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm by Director Acton followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Acton stated that adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act had been given of this meeting and read the Open Public Meetings Act Statement.

On roll call, the following Freeholders were present: Deputy Director Cross, Freeholders Laury, Vanderslice, Ware, Bobbitt, Timberman and Director Acton.

PRESENTATIONS

Melissa Helmbrecht, Executive Director of Court Appointed Special Advocates Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem Counties began by giving a brief overview of the organization. CASA is a non-profit organization that trains community prosecutors to advocate for abused and neglected children in Court. The role of the organization is to address needs of children in foster care. Their primary mission is to shorten the time that a child is in foster care. Advocates go through 30 hours of training, are sworn in and then judges assign them to cases. A program called Family Strengthening Network funded by Pascale Syskes Foundation incubated out of CASA. CASA is currently looking for a location in Salem County.

Doug Bell, Sheriff's Office, and Ryan Redfield, Information Technology gave a presentation on the new upgraded camera system that is installed at OEM, Fifth Street Plaza, the Courthouse, the parking lot behind the Courthouse and Admistration Building. The presentation included visual comparisons between the old and the new system. The correctional facility is currently using the old system and is in the process of upgrading to the new system.

Freeholder Cross stated when the contract was negotiated with Gloucester County we were at 120 inmates. Cumberland was going to be the center of processing. Since that time, the Sheriff was able to get that changed so that Salem was the central point of processing. We are approaching 200 inmates. The Sheriff wants the opportunity to give the update so he will be rescheduled for the next mutually convenient meeting.

Freeholder Cross asked if the meeting could be adjourned in order to go over and congratulate Capt. Polk on his retirement.

Freeholder Laury made a motion to recess with Deputy Director Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion motion carried at 6:45 pm to recess until 7:30 pm by hand vote 7/0.

Respectfully submitted,

Evern D. Ford Clerk of the Board